

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 044685  
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:WNHOWELL:JFC  
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NEA DISTRIBUTION ONLY

-----110559 212236Z /61

P 212202Z FEB 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 044685

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SY, US

SUBJECT: SYRIAN JEWRY: SHALOM VISIT TO SYRIA

REF: DAMASCUS 980 (NOTAL)

1. FOR DAMASCUS: SHALOM, HIS WIFE AND HIS MOTHER DEPARTED  
NYC AS SCHEDULED FEB. 17 FOR ISRAEL. THEY TRAVELING ON  
SECOND PPTS AS SYRIAN EMBASSY HERE STILL HAS NOT RECEIVED  
(AS OF MORNING FEB. 21) PERMISSION FROM DAMASCUS TO ISSUE  
VISAS. WE HAVE NOT RPT NOT INFORMED SYRIAN EMBASSY HERE  
THAT SHALOM PARTY HAS DEPARTED CONUS FOR OBVIOUS REASONS  
BUT ALSO IN HOPE THAT IMPRESSION PARTY HAS BEEN FORCED TO  
DELAY PLANNED TRAVEL WILL SERVE AS ADDITIONAL INCENTIVE FOR  
EXPEDITIOUS APPROVAL.

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2. AMB. KABBANI OF SYRIA INFORMED NEA/ARN FEB. 21 HE  
HOPEFUL OF RECEIVING VISA APPROVALS MOMENTARILY SO THAT  
WE COULD PICK UP PASSPORTS. WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED,  
BUT BELIEVE WE SHOULD BEGIN CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY THAT  
EMBASSY DAMASCUS WILL HAVE TO SEEK AIRPORT VISAS FOR SHALOM  
PARTY IF IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO BREAK LOOSE AUTHORIZATION

HERE BY FRIDAY, FEB. 24. WHETHER PPTS HAVE VISAS OR NOT  
BY THAT DATE, WE WILL HAVE TO PICK THEM UP FROM SYRIAN  
EMBASSY FOR POUCHING TO TEL AVIV IF SHALOM IS TO HAVE THEM

FOR ENTERING SYRIA. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY THOUGHTS EMBASSY  
DAMASCUS MAY HAVE FOR SPEEDING UP ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY  
TO PERMIT ISSUANCE HERE, WHICH WE AGREE IS GREATLY PRE-  
FERABLE TO AIRPORT VISA ROUTE. ALSO WISH TO HAVE YOUR  
ESTIMATE RE AMOUNT OF TIME THAT WOULD BE REQUIRED TO SET  
UP AIRPORT VISAS? WE WILL CABLE TO DAMASCUS FULL  
NAMES AND PPT DATA WHEN DOCUMENTS PICKED UP FROM SYRIAN  
EMBASSY.

3. FOR TEL AVIV: SHALOM IS LEADING MEMBER OF BRONX  
JEWISH COMMUNITY OF SYRIAN ORIGIN AND HAS BEEN WORKING  
CLOSELY WITH DEPT. AND CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ ON QUESTIONS  
OF SYRIAN JEWRY. HE HAS VISITED SYRIA PREVIOUSLY AND,  
FROM ALL EVIDENCE, HAS ESTABLISHED BONA FIDES WITH SYRIAN  
AUTHORITIES. FOR SEVERAL REASONS, SHALOM DID NOT GET  
PPTS OF PARTY TO SYRIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON UNTIL THREE  
WORKING DAYS BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE. EMBASSY DID NOT RECEIVE  
APPROVAL FOR DAMASCUS BEFORE HE DEPARTED FOR ISRAEL, AND  
IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR ARN TO TRANSMIT PPTS, WITH OR  
WITHOUT VISAS, TO SHALOM THROUGH EMBASSY TEL AVIV.

4. SHALOM TOLD ARN HE WILL BE STAYING AT JERUSALEM HILTON  
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DURING MOST OF HIS STAY BUT PREFERRED PICK UP PPTS IN TEL  
AVIV O/A MAR. 3. HOWELL (ARN) PROVIDED SHALOM WITH NAME  
OF FSO WILLIAM KIRBY AS POINT OF CONTACT. AS INDICATED  
ABOVE, ARN WILL PICK UP SHALOM PPTS FROM SYRIAN EMBASSY  
HERE ON FEB. 24, POUCHING THEM TO EMBASSY TEL AVIV,  
ATTENTION KIRBY, VIA UNCLASSIFIED POUCH DEPARTING WASHING-  
TON FEB. 25. WOULD APPRECIATE KIRBY'S OFFICE REMAINING  
ALERT TO CONTACTS FROM SHALOM AND RENDERING HIM APPROPRIATE  
ASSISTANCE WHEN HE CALLS. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** JEWS, VISITS, TRAVEL CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WNHOWELL:JFC  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**Reference:** 78 DAMASCUS 980  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3532860  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SYRIAN JEWRY: SHALOM VISIT TO SYRIA  
**TAGS:** PINT, SY, US  
**To:** DAMASCUS  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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